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different points of view this conception of Christ as the Ideal involved in the whole purpose of creation, and endeavors to show how it provides an answer to the perplexing questions forced upon us by the conclusions of science. The book is able and suggestive, and deals boldly with problems which are too often shirked or overlooked. Its treatment of the teaching of the Epistles is at times illuminating, although it suffers from the continual effort to read a modern philosophy into Pauline ideas. Likewise the attempt to maintain the traditional doctrine of the Incarnation while construing it along the lines of evolutionary theory, is more ingenious than successful. We are afraid that those honest doubters whom Mr. Walker is anxious to win back to the faith will only find their difficulties increased by his explanations. The book serves to remind us (and this perhaps is its chief value) that the need for reconciling Christian doctrine with the cosmic order was already felt by the earliest thinkers of the church. Mr. Walker has done well to confront us once more with the ancient problem; but he has rather re-stated it for us in modern terms than helped us towards its solution.

E. F. SCOTT.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,
KINGSTON, CANADA.

THE COUNTRY CHURCH. C. O. GILL and GIFFORD PINCHOT. The Macmillan Co. 1913. Pp. xii, 222. \$1.25.

One of the really serious problems which confront the religious forces of our eastern States today is the declining effectiveness of the country church. She is altogether too much left out of the reckoning in the discussions of our Associations and Conventions and Conferences. The fact is that the country church lies close to the heart of civilization. The country is the great feeder of the vital forces of all our great urban populations, and no one has a better right than its church to all the enthusiasm and devotion, the resource and ability, of the best Christian thought and enterprise. This study is a serious attempt to get at the facts in the case, and to suggest some remedies.

The volume presents the results of a careful study of the facts as to the gains and losses, over a period of twenty years, in attendance, expenditure, and membership, first in Windsor County, Vermont, where every Protestant Church was covered, and next in Tompkins County, New York, where every Protestant Church outside the city of Ithaca was included. These two counties were chosen because of their representative character. The results are gathered in an

admirable series of diagrams and tables, separate for each county. The tables are well arranged, clear, cogent.

The findings of the investigation are summed up in these words: "They show that in these counties the country church has suffered a decline which proves beyond question that it is losing its hold on the community."

But the recognition of the facts is only the first and necessary step in the pathway of betterment. The facts here presented are sobering, but the book is by no means a wail of despair. Its constructive section, though brief, is wise, suggestive, courageous. The book should deeply interest all who have the problem of the country church on their hearts and are seeking its solution.

EMERY L. BRADFORD.

BOXFORD, MASS.

THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE ANGLO-SAXON RACE. M. V. B. KNOX. Sherman, French, & Co. 1913. Pp. iii, 536. \$2.00.

The title of this book arouses expectations which its contents do not fulfil. Perhaps this was inevitable, for to describe adequately the religious life of a comparatively homogeneous community, indeed even of a single individual, calls for the finest and rarest insight, and when the subject is the Anglo-Saxon race in its various homes—Great Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States—considered, moreover, through some thirteen centuries, almost encyclopedic knowledge must be added to penetrating insight. That the author attempted so stupendous an undertaking is creditable to his courage; that he has failed is not surprising. Unfortunately, the book, although pleasantly written, has many errors, some of which in the judgment of charity may be deemed typographical.

W. W. FENN.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

CHURCH AND STATE IN THE MIDDLE AGES. A. L. SMITH.

Under this somewhat misleading title Mr. A. L. Smith, the well-known history tutor of Balliol College, Oxford, publishes six lectures given by him on the Ford foundation eight years ago. The title is misleading because it seems to announce some wide and general treatment of a vast and highly interesting subject, whereas in fact the real topic is: "The good and evil of the connection of England